

Appl. No. 09/851,940
Amdt. dated October 5, 2004
Reply to Office Action of May 5, 2004

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

STATUS OF THE APPLICATION

Claims 1-30 were pending in this application and examined.

Claims 3, 12, 15, and 24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Claims 1, 2, 13, 14, and 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Volino et al., "Accurate Collision Response on Polygonal Meshes" [hereinafter "Volino_Accurate"] in view of Volino et al., "Collision and Self-Collision Detection: Efficient and Robust Solutions for Highly Deformable Surfaces" [hereinafter "Volino_Collision"]. Claims 5, 17, 25, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Volino_Accurate in view of Volino_Collision and further in view of Yaeger (U.S. Patent 5,515,489) [hereinafter "Yaeger"]. Claims 4, 6, 16, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Volino_Accurate in view of Volino_Collision and further in view of Kommrusch et al. (U.S. Patent 5,444,838) [hereinafter "Kommrusch"]. Claims 7, 9, 19, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Volino_Accurate in view of Volino_Collision and further in view of Rossignac et al., "Interactive Inspection of Solids: Cross-sections and Interferences" [hereinafter "Rossignac"]. Claims 8 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Volino_Accurate in view of Volino_Collision and further in view of Rossignac and Jeff Lander "Skin Them Bones: Game Programming for the Web Generation" [hereinafter "Lander"]. Claims 10 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Volino_Accurate in view of Volino_Collision and further in view of Lafleur et al., "Cloth Animation with Self-Collision Detection" [hereinafter "Lafleur"]. Claims 11 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Volino_Accurate in view of Volino_Collision and further in view of Lafleur and Kommrusch.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 10, 13, and 22. Claims 2-3, 7-9, 11-12, 14-15, 19-21, 23-24, 27-30 have been canceled without prejudice. Applicant submits that no new

Appl. No. 09/851,940
Amdt. dated October 5, 2004
Reply to Office Action of May 5, 2004

PATENT

subject matter has been introduced by the amendments. Claims 1, 4-6, 10, 13, 16-18, 22 and 25-26 remain pending in this application after filing of this amendment.

THE CLAIMS

Claims 2-3, 7-9, 11-12, 14-15, 19-21, 23-24, 27-30 have been canceled without prejudice. Applicant preserves the right to present the canceled claims in continuation applications.

The Final Office Action indicated that claims 3, 12, 15, and 24 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. For sake of expedited prosecution only, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 10, 13, and 22 to include the features of claims 3, 12, 15, and 24, respectively, and any intervening claims. Applicant submits that the pending independent claims 1, 10, 13, and 22 are thus in a condition for allowance. Applicant further submits that dependent claims 4-6, 16-18, and 25-26 are also allowable for at least a similar rationale as discussed above for allowing the independent claims from which they depend.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

S. B. Kotwal

Sujit B. Kotwal
Reg. No. 43,336

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400 / Fax: 415-576-0300
SBK:km
60262636 v1